

What is claimed is:

1. A method of assembling appliances, comprising:
providing a plurality of base units with identical components;
providing a plurality of control consoles with different control features;
5 selecting a first control console from the plurality of consoles; and
mounting the first control console onto one of the base units to create a first model of the
appliance wherein the base unit of the first model include electrical components
that are not electrically connected to the first control console.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising selecting a second control console from
the plurality of consoles with control features different from the first control console; and
mounting the second control console on a second of the base units to create a second model
of the appliance.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2 wherein all electrical components of the base unit are
electrically connected to the second control console.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the console selection is made by a consumer.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done at a retail
establishment.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done by an appliance
dealer.
- 25 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done at a regional
warehouse.
8. A method of assembling an appliance, comprising:
30 allowing a purchaser to select a control console from a plurality of consoles each having
different control features for operating components in a base unit; and

then mounting the selected control console onto the base unit to create the assembled appliance.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done at a retail establishment.

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10. The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done at the purchaser's home.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done by a dealer representative.

10 12. The method of claim 8 further comprising upgrading the appliance by removing the selected control console and mounting a second selected control console having additional control features.

15 13. The method of claim 8 wherein the console mounting is done at a regional warehouse.

14. An appliance, comprising:
a base unit;
electrical components in the base unit for performing functions of the appliance;
20 a control console mounted on the base unit and being electrically connected to less than all of the electrical components to control the components; and
the control console being selected from a group of consoles each having different control features.

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